

## Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Seattle Neighborhood Group offers Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) services to property managers, residents, business owners and design professionals. A neighborhood's houses, apartments, schools, parks and other public and private spaces all help shape a community. Does it feel safe for everyone? What about after dark? How could things be improved?

Simple strategies can help transform a neighborhood's underused and unwelcoming spaces, attracting positive users, rather than those who "take over" a space for illegal activities. For more information on SNG's CPTED services, please contact Kelly McKinney at (206) 937-8098.

SeaTac is the city nearest to Seattle to incorporate CPTED into its code. In some cases, such as code applicable to multi-family housing, CPTED is a major, explicit component. In other instances (for example, SeaTac's sign code), CPTED is incorporated into sections of code as "sound practice" language. Parks, landscaping, houses, malls, multi-use and apartment buildings and parking lots and garages all go through a review by SeaTac Police Department CPTED practitioners.

### **What is CPTED?**

"CPTED" is a concept that employs site and building design as a crime prevention strategy, intended to reduce the opportunity for criminal behavior, reduce both the incidence and fear of crime, reduce calls for police services and improve quality of life.

CPTED relies on PEOPLE more than on security systems and traditional forms of "target hardening". Four basic principles guide all of CPTED practice. These principles are:

1. **Natural Surveillance:** Placing structures and landscaping to allow users and residents to see and hear activity. Legitimate users can identify trespassers and potential criminals will feel unsafe because they are too visible.
2. **Natural Access Control:** Placing walkways, building entrances, signs, fences, landscaping and lighting to discourage access to crime targets and create a perception of risk to offender.
3. **Territorial Reinforcement:** Showing a sense of ownership and care for a private property and the surrounding neighborhood, through appropriate fencing, pavement, landscaping, lighting and other physical improvements.
4. **Image and Maintenance:** Maintaining buildings and grounds to enhance resident safety and neighborhood aesthetics and to indicate proactive management philosophy. Well-maintained properties send strong messages about who should be there and who should not.

For further information on this service or other services provided by  
Seattle Neighborhood Group  
Please Contact Kelly McKinney at 937-8098 or via email at [Kelly@sngi.org](mailto:Kelly@sngi.org)

## A PLANT LIST FOR NATURAL ACCESS CONTROL

**Compiled by:**  
**Hough Beck & Baird Inc**  
**Landscape Architects**  
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Natural access control can be achieved by emphasizing natural strategies that integrate behavior management through the design of space and the choice of plant materials. Dense plantings of thorny plant materials can provide a formidable barrier, one that is difficult to penetrate.

The table below provides a list of suggested materials recommended for use in Bellingham, Washington. This specific list contains plants which are considered to be successful tactile buffers due to the presence of spines or thorns. Additional plants may be added to this list as deemed appropriate. Plants should be selected based upon the site-specific conditions which may affect plant growth (such as sun exposure, soil types, shoreline conditions adjacent site improvements, etc.). Plant material selection should be coordinated with maintenance requirements and utility locations to avoid conflicts.

### A Plant List for Natural Access Control

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS
Berberis buxifolia	Magellan Barberry	6' high 6' wide	Evergreen, spines leathery 1" leaves, upright growth, yellow flowers
Berberis buxifolia nana	Berberis nana	1.5' high 2' wide	Evergreen, groundcover, used to control foot traffic, spines dense mounding habit good low hedge
Berberis darwinii	Darwin Barberry	5'-10 high 4'-7 wide	Hardy evergreen, dense yellow-orange flowers in spring, small holly like leaves with spines, arching habit, dark purple fruits.
Berberis Julianae	Wintergreen Barberry	6' high	Evergreen or deciduous can form a very dense compact shrub, spiny Toothed 3" feet leaves one of the thorniest.
Berberis mentorensis	Mentor Barberry	7' high	Semi-evergreen, hardy, thickly textured dark green 1" leaves with spines, turning scarlet red in autumn. Maintained as a hedge.
Berberis thunbergii	Japanese Barberry	4'-6' high	Deciduous 1" leaves. Autumn color, spiny branches, arching habit, many varieties to

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<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b>	<b>COMMON NAME</b>	<b>SIZE</b>	<b>GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS</b>
			choose from
Berberis verruclosa	Warty Barberry	3'-4' high	Evergreen Shrub dark green 1" leaves yellow Flowers, blue black fruit, spines
Eleagnus pungens	Thorny Eleagnus	6'-15' high	Evergreen Shrub, dark Green, Leathery 1"-3" leaves upright habit with dense growth and spiny branches, silver white flowers in the autumn
Ilex aquifolium	English Holly	40' high	Evergreen tree or shrub, will take a shrub form if pruned in early years, slow growing attractive winter fruit Many varieties to choose from.
Ilex Cornuta	Chinese Holly	10' high	Evergreen shrub or small tree glossy green spiny leaves, not as hardy as Ilex Aquifolium
Juniperus Species	Juniper Species	Ground cover to 10' high	Evergreen with needle like or scale like leaves, will tolerate a wide range of climate and soil conditions many varieties to choose from.
Mahonia Aquifolium	Oregon Grape	6' high	Evergreen Shrub with erect habit, compound leaves 4"-10' long with 5-9 very spiny toothed 2" leaflets thrives in severe conditions, yellow flowers in spring purple fruit
Mahonia Nervosa	Longleaf Mahonia	2' high	Evergreen shrub 10"-18" leaves with 7-21 spiny toothed 1"-3" leaflets
Mahonia Repens	Creeping Mahonia	3' high	Evergreen shrub with a spreading habit, spiny toothed leaves, shorter and broader leaflets than other Mahonia species
Pyracantha Coccincea	Scarlet Firethorn	8'-10' high	Deciduous shrub fast growing, thorns, dense irregular growth habit, flowers in early summer, showy red berries
Rosa Rugosa	Rugosa Rose	5-6' high	Deciduous or evergreen shrub, prickly stems, hardy in severe climates
Rubus Spectabilis	Salmonberry	8' high	Deciduous shrub with upright branches, thorns, prefers damp soil

Sources: *Sunset Western Garden Book* and *Trees and Shrubs for Pacific Northwest*.

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